STATE PLAN UNDER TITLE XIX OF THE SOCIAL SECURITY ACT

State of VIRGINIA

METHODS AND STANDARDS FOR ESTABLISHING PAYMENT RATES -
IN-PATIENT HOSPITAL CARE

---

4. To pay capital cost through claims, a hospital specific adjustment to the per diem rate will be made. At settlement of each hospital fiscal year, this per diem adjustment will be eliminated and capital shall be paid as a pass-through.

5. This methodology shall be used after the transition period to reimburse days of hospital stays with admission dates before July 1, 1996.

6. This methodology shall be used after the transition period to make interim payments until such time as the DRG payment methodology is operational.

12 VAC 30-70-410. State university teaching hospitals.

For hospitals that were state owned teaching hospitals on January 1, 1996, all the calculations which support the determination of hospital specific rate per case and rate per day amounts under the DRG reimbursement methodology shall be carried out separately from other hospitals, using cost data taken only from state university teaching hospitals. Rates to be used shall be determined on the basis of cost report and other applicable data from the most recent year for which reliable data are available at the time of rebasing.

12 VAC 30-70-420. Reimbursement of non-cost reporting-general acute care hospital providers.

Non-Cost-reporting general acute care hospitals (general acute care hospitals that are not required to file cost reports) shall be paid based on the methodology specified in 12 VAC 30-70-120 until such time as the Department can implement the DRG claims payment methodology. Once the DRG claims payment methodology is operational, non-cost-reporting general acute care hospitals shall be paid based on the statewide operating rate per case (12 VAC 30-70-330) plus the statewide average capital rate (12 VAC 30-70-270) estimated at the time of rebasing (12 VAC 30-70-220). Effective with discharges after the operational date of the DRG claims payment system, these hospitals shall be paid based on DRG rates unadjusted for geographic variation. General acute care hospitals shall not file cost reports if they have less than 1000 days per year (in the most recent provider fiscal year) of inpatient utilization by Virginia Medicaid recipients, inclusive of patients in managed care capitation programs.

Prior approval must be received from DMAS when a referral has been made for treatment to be received from a nonenrolled acute care facility (in-state or out-of-state), except in the case of an emergency or because medical resources or supplementary resources are more readily available in another state.

12 VAC 30-70-430. Medicare upper limit.

For participating and nonparticipating facilities, the state agency will pay no more in the aggregate for inpatient hospital services than the amount it is estimated would be paid for the services under the Medicare

STATE PLAN UNDER TITLE XIX OF THE SOCIAL SECURITY ACT

State of VIRGINIA

METHODS AND STANDARDS FOR ESTABLISHING PAYMENT RATES - IN-PATIENT HOSPITAL CARE

principles of reimbursement, as set forth in 42 CFR 447.253(b)(2) or the lesser of reasonable cost or customary charges in 42 CFR 447.250.

12 VAC 30-70-440. Repealed.

12 VAC 30-70-441. Public comment process. The State has in place a public process which complies with the requirements of § 1902(a)(13)(A) of the *Social Security Act.*

12 VAC 30-70-450. Cost reporting requirements.

Except for non-cost reporting hospitals general acute care hospitals and freestanding psychiatric facilities licensed as hospitals, all hospitals shall submit cost reports. All cost reports shall be submitted on uniform reporting forms provided by the state agency and by Medicare. Such cost reports shall cover a 12-month period. Any exceptions must be approved by the state agency. The cost reports are due not later than 150 days after the provider's fiscal year end. All fiscal year end changes must be approved 90 days prior to the beginning of a new fiscal year. If a complete cost report is not received within 150 days after the end of the provider's fiscal year, the program shall take action in accordance with its policies to ensure that an overpayment is not being made. When cost reports are delinquent, the provider's interim rate shall be reduced to zero. The reductions shall start on the first day of the following month when the cost report is due. After the delinquent cost report is received, desk reviewed, and a new prospective rate established, the amounts withheld shall be computed and paid. If the provider fails to submit a complete cost report within 180 days after the fiscal year end, a penalty in the amount of 10% of the balance withheld shall be forfeited to the state agency. The cost report will be judged complete when the state agency has all of the following:

1. Completed cost reporting form or forms provided by DMAS, with signed certification or certifications.
2. The provider's trial balance showing adjusting journal entries.
3. The provider's financial statements including, but not limited to, a balance sheet, a statement of income and expenses, a statement of retained earnings (or fund balance), a statement of changes in financial position, and footnotes to the financial statements. Multi-level facilities shall be governed by 12 VAC 30-70-450 (5 below).
4. Schedules which reconcile financial statements and trial balance to expenses claimed in the cost report.
5. Hospitals which are part of a chain organization must also file:
   a. Home office cost report;
   b. Audited consolidated financial statements of the chain organization including the auditor's report in which he expresses his opinion or, if circumstances require, disclaims an opinion based on generally accepted auditing standards, the management report, and footnotes to the financial statements;

STATE PLAN UNDER TITLE XIX OF THE SOCIAL SECURITY ACT

State of VIRGINIA

METHODS AND STANDARDS FOR ESTABLISHING PAYMENT RATES - IN-PATIENT HOSPITAL CARE

c. The hospital's financial statements including, but not limited to, a balance sheet, a statement of income and expenses, a statement of retained earnings (or fund balance), and a statement of cash flows;

d. Schedule of restricted cash funds that identify the purpose of each fund and the amount;

e. Schedule of investments by type (stock, bond, etc.), amount, and current market value.

6. Such other analytical information or supporting documents requested by the state agency when the cost reporting forms are sent to the provider.

12 VAC 30-70-460. Hospital settlement.

A. During the transition period claims will be processed and tentative payment made using per diem rates. Settlements will be carried out to ensure that the correct blend of DRG and per diem-based payment is received by each general acute care and rehabilitation hospital and to settle reimbursement of pass-through costs. There shall be no settlement of freestanding psychiatric facilities licensed as hospitals except with respect to disproportionate share hospital (DSH) payment, if necessary (see 12 VAC 30-70-210 E 3).

B. The transition blend percentages which determine the share of DRG system and of revised per diem system reimbursement that is applicable in a given period shall change with the change of the state fiscal year, not the hospital fiscal year.

C. If a hospital's fiscal year does not end June 30, its first year ending after June 30, 1996, contains one or more months under the previous methodology, a "split" settlement shall be done of that hospital's fiscal year. Services rendered through June 30, 1996, shall be reimbursed under the previous reimbursement methodology and services rendered after June 30, 1996, will be reimbursed as described in subsection G of this section.

D. For cases subject to settlement under the blend of DRG and per diem methodologies (cases with an admission date after June 30, 1996), the date of discharge determines the year in which any inpatient service or claim related to the case shall be settled. This shall be true for both the DRG and the per diem portions of settlement. Interim claims tentatively paid in one hospital fiscal year that relate to a discharge in a later hospital fiscal year, shall be voided and reprocessed in the latter year so that the interim claim shall not be included in the settlement of the first year, but in the settlement of the year of discharge. An exception to this shall be rehabilitation cases, the claims for which shall be settled in the year of the "through" date of the claim.

E. A single group of cases with discharges in the appropriate time period shall be the basis of both the DRG and the per diem portion of settlement. These cases shall be based on claims submitted and, if necessary, corrected by 120 days after the providers FYE. Cases which are based on claims that lack sufficient information to support grouping to a DRG category, and which the hospital cannot correct, shall be settled for purposes of the DRG portion of settlement based on the lowest of the DRG weights.

F. Reimbursement for services in freestanding psychiatric facilities licensed as hospitals shall not be subject to settlement.

STATE PLAN UNDER TITLE XIX OF THE SOCIAL SECURITY ACT

State of VIRGINIA

METHODS AND STANDARDS FOR ESTABLISHING PAYMENT RATES - IN-PATIENT HOSPITAL CARE

G. During the transition period settlements shall be carried out according to the following formulas.

1. Settlement of a hospital's first fiscal year ending after July 1, 1996:

a. Operating reimbursement shall be equal to the sum of the following:

(1) Paid days occurring in the hospital's fiscal year before July 1, 1996, times the per diem in effect before July 1, 1996.

(2) Paid days occurring after June 30, 1996, but in the hospital fiscal year, that are related to admissions that occurred before July 1, 1996, times the revised system per diem that is effective on July 1, 1996.

(3) DRG system payment for DRG and psychiatric cases admitted after June 30, 1996, and discharged within the hospital fiscal year times 1/3.

(4) DRG system payment for rehabilitation claims having a "from" date of July 1, 1996, or later and a "through" date within the hospital fiscal year times 1/3.

(5) Paid days from the cases and claims in subdivisions 1 a (3) and (4) of this subsection, times the revised system per diem that is effective on July 1, 1996, times 2/3.

b. DSH reimbursement shall be equal to paid days from the start of the hospital fiscal year through June 30, 1996, times the DSH per diem effective before July 1, 1996. There shall be no settlement of DSH after July 1, 1996, as the lump sum amount shall be final.

c. Pass-throughs shall be settled as previously based on allowable cost related to days paid in subdivisions 1 a (1), (2), and (5) of this subsection.

2. Settlement of a hospital's second fiscal year ending after July 1, 1996:

a. Operating reimbursement shall be equal to the sum of the following:

(1) Days occurring in the hospital fiscal year related to admissions that occurred before July 1, 1996, times the revised system per diem that is effective at the time.

(2) DRG system payment for DRG and psychiatric cases discharged in the hospital fiscal year, but before July 1, 1997, times 1/3.

(3) DRG system payment for rehabilitation claims having a "through" date within the hospital fiscal year but before July 1, 1997, times 1/3.

(4) Covered days from the cases and claims and in subdivisions 2 b and c of this subsection, times the revised system per diem that is effective on July 1, 1996, times 2/3.

(5) DRG system payment for DRG and psychiatric cases discharged from July 1, 1997, through the end of the hospital fiscal year, times 2/3.

STATE PLAN UNDER TITLE XIX OF THE SOCIAL SECURITY ACT

State of VIRGINIA

METHODS AND STANDARDS FOR ESTABLISHING PAYMENT RATES - IN-PATIENT HOSPITAL CARE

(6) DRG system payment for rehabilitation claims having a "through" date from July 1, 1997, through the end of the hospital fiscal year, times 2/3.

(7) Covered days from the cases and claims and in subdivisions 2 a (5) and (6), times the revised system per diem that is effective on July 1, 1997, times 1/3.

b. DSH reimbursement shall be the predetermined lump sum amount.

c. Pass-throughs shall be settled as previously, based on allowable cost related to days paid in subdivisions 2 a (1), (4), and (7).

12 VAC 30-70-470. Underpayments.

When the settlement of a hospital fiscal year indicates that an underpayment has occurred, the state agency shall pay the additional amount to the hospital within 60 days of completion of the settlement.

12 VAC 30-70-480. Refund of overpayments.

A. Lump sum payment. When the settlement of a hospital fiscal year indicates that an overpayment has occurred, full refund shall be remitted with the cost report. In cases where the state agency discovers an overpayment during desk review, field audit, or final settlement, the state agency shall promptly send the first demand letter requesting a lump sum refund. Recovery shall be undertaken unless the hospital disputes the state agency's determination of the overpayment. If the hospital disputes the state agency 's determination, recovery, if any, shall be undertaken after the issue date of any administrative decision issued by the state agency after an informal fact finding conference.

B. Offset. If the hospital has been overpaid for a particular fiscal year and has been underpaid for another fiscal year, the underpayment shall be offset against the overpayment. So long as the hospital has an overpayment balance, any underpayments discovered by subsequent review or audit shall also be used to reduce the remaining amount of the overpayment.

C. Payment schedule. If the hospital cannot refund the total amount of the overpayment (i) at the time it files a cost report indicating that an overpayment has occurred, the hospital shall request an extended repayment schedule at the time of filing or (ii) within 30 days after receiving the DMAS demand letter, the hospital shall promptly request an extended repayment schedule.

DMAS may establish a repayment schedule of up to 12 months to recover all or part of an overpayment or, if a hospital demonstrates that repayment within a 12-month period would create severe financial hardship, the Director of the Department of Medical Assistance Services (the director) may approve a repayment schedule of up to 36 months.

A hospital shall have no more than one extended repayment schedule in place at one time. If an audit later uncovers an additional overpayment, the full amount shall be repaid within 30 days unless the hospital

STATE PLAN UNDER TITLE XIX OF THE SOCIAL SECURITY ACT

State of VIRGINIA

METHODS AND STANDARDS FOR ESTABLISHING PAYMENT RATES - IN-PATIENT HOSPITAL CARE

submits further documentation supporting a modification to the existing extended repayment schedule to include the additional amount.

If, during the time an extended repayment schedule is in effect, the hospital withdraws from the program or fails to file a cost report in a timely manner, the outstanding balance shall become immediately due and payable.

When a repayment schedule is used to recover only part of an overpayment, the remaining amount shall be recovered by the reduction of interim payments to the hospital or by lump sum payments.

D. Extension request documentation. In the request for an extended repayment schedule, the hospital shall document the need for an extended (beyond 30 days) repayment and submit a written proposal scheduling the dates and amounts of repayments. If DMAS approves the schedule, DMAS shall send the hospital written notification of the approved repayment schedule, which shall be effective retroactive to the date the hospital submitted the proposal.

E. Interest charge on extended repayment. Interest charges on the unpaid balance of any overpayment shall accrue pursuant to § 32.1-313 of the Code of Virginia from the date the director's determination becomes final.

The director's determination shall be deemed to be final on (i) the due date of any cost report filed by the hospital indicating that an overpayment has occurred, or (ii) the issue date of any notice of overpayment, issued by DMAS, if the hospital does not file an appeal, or (iii) the issue date of any administrative decision issued by DMAS after an informal fact finding conference, regardless of whether the hospital files a further appeal. In any event, interest shall be waived if the overpayment is completely liquidated within 30 days of the date of the final determination. In cases in which a determination of overpayment has been judicially reversed, the hospital shall be reimbursed that portion of the payment to which it is entitled, plus any applicable interest which the hospital paid to DMAS.

12 VAC 30-70-490. Medicaid Hospital Payment Policy Advisory Council.

In order to ensure the ongoing relevance and fairness of the prospective payment system for hospital services, the Director of the Department of Medical Assistance Services shall appoint a Medicaid Hospital Payment Policy Advisory Council. The council shall be composed of four hospital or health system representatives nominated by the Virginia Hospital and Healthcare Association, two senior department staff and one representative each from the Department of Planning and Budget and the Joint Commission on Healthcare. This council will be charged with evaluating and developing recommendations on payment policy changes in areas that include, but are not limited to, the following: (i) utilization reductions directly attributable to the 1995 Appropriations Act utilization initiative and any necessary adjustments to SFY1997 and 1998 DRG rates; (ii) the update and inflation factors to apply to the various components of the delivery system; (iii) the treatment of capital and medical education costs; (iv) the mechanisms and budget implications of recalibration and rebasing approaches; (v) the disproportionate share payment fund and allocation mechanisms; and (vi) the timing and final design of an outpatient payment methodology.

STATE PLAN UNDER TITLE XIX OF THE SOCIAL SECURITY ACT

State of VIRGINIA

METHODS AND STANDARDS FOR ESTABLISHING PAYMENT RATES - IN-PATIENT HOSPITAL CARE

The state agency will pay the reasonable cost of in-patient hospital services provided under the Plan. In reimbursing hospitals for the cost of inpatient hospital services provided to recipients of medical assistance.

I. For each hospital also participating in the Health Insurance for the Aged program under Title XVIII of the Social Security Act, the state agency will apply the standards, cost reporting period, cost reimbursement principles, and method of cost apportionment currently used in computing reimbursement to such a hospital under Title XVIII of the Act, except that the inpatient routine service costs for medical assistance recipients will be determined subsequent to the application of the Title XVIII method of apportionment, and the calculation will exclude the applicable Title XVIII inpatient routine service charges or patient days as well as Title XVIII inpatient routine service cost.

II. For each hospital not participating in the Program under Title XVIII of the Act, the state agency will apply the standards and principles described in 42 CFR 447.250 and either (a) one of the available alternative cost apportionment methods in 42 CFR 447.250, or (b) the "Gross RCCAC method" of cost apportionment applied as follows: For a reporting period, the total allowable hospital inpatient charges; the resulting percentage is applied to the bill of each inpatient under the Medical Assistance Program.

III. For either participating or nonparticipating facilities, the Medical Assistance Program will pay no more in the aggregate for inpatient hospital services that the amount it is estimated would be paid for the services under the Medicare principles of reimbursement, as set forth in 42 CFR 447.253(b)(2), and/or lesser of reasonable cost or customary charges in 42 CFR 447.250.

IV. The state agency will apply the standards and principles as described in the state's reimbursement plan approved by the Secretary, HHS on a demonstration or experimental basis for the payment of reasonable costs by methods other than those described in paragraphs (a) and (b) above.

V. The reimbursement system for hospitals includes the following components:

(1) Hospitals were grouped by classes according to number of beds and urban versus rural. (Three groupings for rural - 0 to 100 beds, 101 to 170 beds, and over 170 beds; four groupings for urban - 0 to 100, 101 to 400, 401 to 600, and over 600 beds.) Groupings are similar to those used by the Health Care Financing Administration (HCFA) in determining routine cost limitations.

STATE PLAN UNDER TITLE XIX OF THE SOCIAL SECURITY ACT

State of VIRGINIA

METHODS AND STANDARDS FOR ESTABLISHING PAYMENT RATES -
IN-PATIENT HOSPITAL CARE

(2) Prospective reimbursement ceilings on allowable operating costs were established as of July 1, 1982, for each grouping. Hospitals with a fiscal year end after June 30, 1982 were subject to the new reimbursement ceilings.

The calculation of the initial group ceilings as of July 1, 1982, based on available, allowable cost data for hospitals in calendar year 1981. Individual hospital operating costs were advanced by a reimbursement escalator from the hospital's year end to July 1, 1982. After this advancement, the operating costs were standardized using SMSA wage indices, and a median was determined for each group. These medians were re-adjusted by the wage index to set an actual cost ceiling for each SMSA. Therefore, each hospital grouping has a series of ceilings representing one of each SMSA area. The wage index is based on those used by HCFA in computing its Market Basket Index for routine cost limitations.

Effective July 1, 1986 and until June 30, 1988, providers subject to the prospective payment system of reimbursement had their prospective operating cost rate and prospective operating cost ceiling computed using a new methodology. This method uses an allowance for inflation based on the percent of change in the quarterly average of the Medical Care Index of the Chase Econometrics - Standard Forecast determined in the quarter in which the provider's new fiscal year began.

The prospective operating cost rate is based on the provider's allowable cost from the most recent filed cost report, plus the inflation percentage add-on.

The prospective operating cost ceiling is determined by using the base that was in effect for the provider's fiscal year that began between July 1, 1985, and June 1, 1986. The allowance for inflation percent of change for the quarter in which the provider's new fiscal year began is added to this base to determine the new operating cost ceiling. This new ceiling was effective for all providers on July 1, 1986. For subsequent cost reporting periods beginning on or after July 1, 1986, the last prospective operating rate ceiling determined under this new methodology will become the base for computing the next prospective year ceiling.

STATE PLAN UNDER TITLE XIX OF THE SOCIAL SECURITY ACT

State of VIRGINIA

METHODS AND STANDARDS FOR ESTABLISHING PAYMENT RATES - IN-PATIENT HOSPITAL CARE

Effective on and after July 1, 1988 and until June 30, 1989, for providers subject to the prospective payment system, the allowance for inflation shall be based on the percent of change in the moving average of the Data Resources, Incorporated Health Care Cost HCFA-Type Hospital Market Basket determined in the quarter in which the provider's new fiscal year begins. Such providers shall have their prospective operating cost rate and prospective operating cost ceiling established in accordance with the methodology which became effective July 1, 1986. Rates and ceilings in effect July 1, 1988 for all such hospitals shall be adjusted to reflect this change.

Effective on or after July 1, 1989, for providers subject to the prospective payment system, the allowance for inflation shall be based on the percent of change in the moving average of the Health Care Cost HCFA-Type Hospital Market Basket, adjusted for Virginia, as developed by Data Resources, Incorporated, determined in the quarter in which the provider's new fiscal year begins. Such providers shall have their prospective operating cost rate and prospective operating cost ceiling established in accordance with the methodology which became effective July 1, 1986. Rates and ceilings in effect July 1, 1989 for all such hospitals shall be adjusted to reflect this change.

Effective on and after July 1, 1992, for providers subject to the prospective payment system, the allowance for inflation, as described above, which became effective on July 1, 1989, shall be converted to an escalation factor by adding two percentage points, (200 basis points) to the then current allowance for inflation. The escalation factor shall be applied in accordance with the inpatient hospital reimbursement methodology in effect on June 30, 1992. On July 1, 1992 the conversion to the new escalation factor shall be accomplished by a transition methodology which, for non-June 30 year end hospitals, applies the escalation factor to escalate their payment rates for the months between July 1, 1992 and their next fiscal year ending on or before May 31, 1993.

The new method will still require comparison of the prospective operating cost rate to the prospective operating ceiling. The provider is allowed the lower of the two amounts subject to the lower of cost or charges principles.

(3) Subsequent to June 30, 1992, the group ceilings shall not be recalculated on allowable costs, but shall be updated by the escalator factor.

STATE PLAN UNDER TITLE XIX OF THE SOCIAL SECURITY ACT

State of VIRGINIA

METHODS AND STANDARDS FOR ESTABLISHING PAYMENT RATES - IN-PATIENT HOSPITAL CARE

(4) Prospective rates for each hospital shall be based upon the hospital's allowable costs plus the escalator factor, or the appropriate ceilings, or charges; whichever is lower. Except to eliminate costs that are found to be unallowable, no retrospective adjustment shall be made to prospective rates.

Depreciation, capital interest, and education costs approved pursuant to PRM-15 (§400), shall be considered as pass throughs and not part of the calculation.

(5) An incentive plan should be established whereby a hospital will be paid on a sliding scale, percentage for percentage, up to 25% of the difference between allowable operating costs and the appropriate per diem group ceiling when the operating costs are below the ceilings. The incentive should be calculated based on the annual cost report.

The table below presents three examples under the new plan:

Group Ceiling	Hospital's Allowable Cost Per Day	Difference $	Difference % of Ceiling	Sliding Scale Incentive $	Sliding Scale Incentive % of Difference
$230.00	$230.00	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
230.00	207.00	23.00	10%	2.30	10%
230.00	172.00	57.50	25%	14.38	25%
230.00	143.00	76.00	33%	19.00	25%

(6) There will be special consideration for exception to the median operating cost limits in those instances where extensive neonatal care is provided.

(7) Hospitals which have a disproportionately higher level of Medicaid patients and which exceed the ceiling shall be allowed a higher ceiling based on the individual hospital's Medicaid utilization. This shall be measured by the percent of Medicaid patient days to total hospital patient days. Each hospital with a Medicaid utilization of over 8.0% shall receive an adjustment to its ceiling. The adjustment shall be set at a percent added to the ceiling for each percent of utilization up to 30%.

Disproportionate share hospitals defined.

Effective July 1, 1988, the following criteria shall be met before a hospital is determined to be eligible for a disproportionate share payment adjustment.

A. Criteria

1. A Medicaid inpatient utilization rate in excess of 8% for hospitals receiving Medicaid payments in the Commonwealth, or a low-income patient utilization rate exceeding 25% (as defined in the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1987 and as amended by the Medicare Catastrophic Coverage Act of 1988); and